pletion of Nadiad-Kapadwanj-Modasa Railway Line

199. SHRI VITHALBHAI MOTIRAM PATEL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government of Gujarat have requested to complete Nadiad-Kapadwanj-Modasa railway line at the earliest;

(b) whether Government are aware that the people of these areas have started agitation for completing proposed Nadiad-Kapadwanj - Modasa railway line;

(c) what is the amount that has been spent upto now on the above line and what is likely to be the total expenditure on it; and

(d) whether any amount has been sanctioned for t his railway line, if so, details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) and (b) Requests have been received from the State Government and others for early completion of this project.

(c) Rs. 3.3 crores (approximately) have so far been spent on the project. Present day cost would be of the order of about Rs. 45 crores.

(d) No funds could be allotted for this project in 1987-88 due to acute constraint of resources.

Electrification of Rail Lines between four Metropolitan Cities

200. SHRI KALPNATH RAI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the railway lines between Delhi and the other metropolitan cities *viz.*, Bombay, Madras and Calcutta are electrified;

(b) if not, when electrification of these lines is expected to be completed; and

(c) what are the details of the plans under way for electrification of other lines under the Indian Railway system?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) and (b):—

Delhi-Calcutta—Already completed.

Delhi-Bombay (*via* Western Railway route)—Already completed.

Delhi-Madras (G.T. route)—1989-90

Delhi-Bombay (*via* Central Railway route)—1990-91.

(c) Electrification of the following sections has also been approved and works are in progress:

(i) Chandrapura Complex
(ii) Bina-Katni-Bilaspur
(iii) Bhopal-Nagda
(iv) Korba-Gevra Road (as part of Champa-Gevra Road)
(v) Krishna Canal-Guntur-Tenali
(vi) Tundla-Agra-Bayana
(vii) Jollarpettai-Banagalore
(viii) Kazipet-Sanatnagar
(ix) Jollarpettai-Erode and Salem-Mattur Dam
(x) Koraput-Damanjodi.

Railway accident of 66 Down Dehradun-Varanasi Express

201. SHRI MUKHTIAR SINGH MALIK: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that 66 Down Dehradun-Varanasi Express dashed against a goods train at Aigawan Station near Lucknow on 12th January, 1988;

(b) if so, what is the estimated loss of life and property;

(c) whether any inquiry has since been conducted in this matter; and

(d) if so, what are the findings of the inquiry?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) 4 Railway employees lost their lives and 8 passengers sustained simple injuries. Loss to railway property has been estimated at Rs. 38.7 lakhs.

(c) and (d) A statutory inquiry has been conducted into this accident by Commissioner of Railway Safety, Northern Circle, Lucknow. His report is awaited.

WHO response on Mandatory Test—Free from AIDS Virus

202. SHRI V. GOPALSAMY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have approached World Health Organisation to make it mandatory for all foreign tourists to carry certificates declaring them free from AIDS virus;

(b) if so, what had been the response from WHO;

(c) what are the steps being taken to contain AIDS in the country particularly when AIDS is spreading fast abroad; and

(d) what is the number of AIDS cases detected in the country, indicating the State-wise break up of figures as on date?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) During the World Summit of Ministers of Health on Programmes for AIDS prevention held in London from 26th to 28th January, 1988, the then Minister of Health and Family Welfare in his speech had proposed that it would be helpful if national governments could accept HIV-free status health certificates issued from the country of origin. This would avoid inconvenience to foreign tourists and that in due course, the HIV-status certificate be made part of travel documents carried by all foreign visitors.

(b) The views of the W.H.O. have not been received.

(c) The following precautionary measures are being taken by the Government:—

1. A Cell has been established in the Directorate General of Health Services to coordinate AIDS Control activity in the country.

2. 37 Surveillance centres have been established in the country to screen high risk groups.

3. All these centres have been provided with diagnostic reagents and equipment package have also been provided to most of them.

4. Restrictions have been imposed for import of blood and blood products without AIDS clearance certificate.

5. All the State Health authorities/hospitals/STD clinics have been alerted to be vigilant.

6. All the blood banks have been instructed to screen the professional blood donors.

7. All the State Health authorities have been advised to ensure strict sterilisation practices in hospitals and clinics and to use pre-sterilised disposable syringes and needles as far as possible.

8. Guidelines have been sent to all the State Health authorities for health care personnel.

9. All the mass media channels have been involved in educating the people on AIDS, its nature, transmission and prevention.

10. *Foreigners*:

I. Any new foreign student being admitted in any of the Indian Institutions, is required to undergo AIDS test. Anyboy found